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the judicial involvement away. I think they seek that out currently and they wouldn't be able to do so if we make this radical change. I'm going to spend some time this morning talking about the last time we had total administrative authority for placement, and I'll be reading...and that was in the late eighties. And this Legislature, in a bill that was carried by Senator George Coordsen, made some changes that addressed the child welfare side. So what I'll be doing is going over the reasons why it's not appropriate at this point in time why we're not ready, as a state, at this point in time, to go to this gatekeeper bill; why it needs more work; what the department needs to have in place in order to get there. Now those are going to be opinions that I'm taking from some research documents, from some national data, but I think the best approach would be to pass this amendment and ask the group that has the juvenile justice experts from the state to take what is, I believe, a very controversial issue and make a recommendation based on their work. The group is staffed by the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Department of Criminal Justice, with people who work in the juvenile justice area and do a lot of other work in the state in the juvenile justice area and have a good background and can help us get resolution on this. But I'm not comfortable at this point in time, in the history of our state, turning this decision to the department as an administrative decision. The recommendations that came from the Juvenile Services Master Plan, which was issued in December of 1999, are lengthy. One of the recommendations is to set up a single point of entry into state custody, and that's the genesis of this bill. But there are many steps that need to be taken to get to that point. We're probably at "Point A" or "B", and this bill is "Z". Let me read to you from the plan what needs to be in place in order to get to "Z". This recommendation is difficult to "operationalize" because it requires policy and decision making that is external to OJS. Judges would have to agree to the policy of committing youth to state custody, with OJS making the placement decision, and statutes would need to be revised. A long process of education and training would also be needed to realize this change in current practice. In order to build confidence in utilizing a single point of entry assessment process and continuum of service, there would have to be confidence among judges that an objective and accurate